



**PATENT**

**Attorney Docket No.: 2081CON2CIPCON(203-2400CON2CIPCON)**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s):	Buyse et al.	Examiner:	Roy Gibson
Serial No.:	10/736,180	Group:	Art Unit 3739
Filed:	December 15, 2003	Dated:	March 19, 2004
For:	BIPOLAR ELECTROSURGICAL INSTRUMENT FOR SEALING VESSELS		

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. It is respectfully submitted that copies of the references listed on pages 1-9 are not required since this application was filed after June 30, 2003 pursuant to 51 C.F.R. §1.98. Copies of foreign references and publications listed on pages 10-14 of form PTO-1449 are enclosed.

Applicant would also like to bring commonly-owned U.S. Application Serial No. 10/474,227 filed October 3, 2003; U.S. Application Serial No. 10/299,650 filed November 19, 2002; U.S. Application Serial No. 10/246,087 filed September 17, 2002; U. S. Application Serial No. 10/472,295 filed September 18, 2003; U.S. Application Serial No. 10/474,169 filed October 3, 2003; U.S. Application Serial No. 10/116,944 filed April 5, 2002; U.S. Application Serial No. 10/369,894 filed February 20, 2003;

---

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 19, 2004.

Dated: March 19, 2004

\_\_\_\_\_  
Edward C. Meagher

U.S. Application Serial No. 10/474,170 filed October 3, 2003; U.S. Application Serial No. 10/116,824 filed April 5, 2002; U.S. Application Serial No. 10/284,562 filed October 30, 2002; U.S. Application Serial No. 10/471,818 filed September 11, 2003; U.S. Application Serial No. 10/712,486 filed November 13, 2003; U.S. Application Serial No. 10/460,926 filed June 13, 2003 to the Examiner's attention. Copies of these applications are enclosed.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

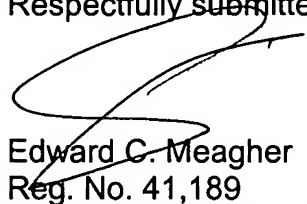
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- ☒ To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.

- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(ii).
- ☐ Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. (37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))
- ☐ Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. 50-2140.
- ☐ Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
- ☐ Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 50-2140.
- ☒ Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 50-2140. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 50-2140 therefor.

**TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.**

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. C. Meagher', is written over the printed name.

Edward C. Meagher  
Reg. No. 41,189  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

***Carter, DeLuca, Farrell & Schmidt, LLP***

445 Broad Hollow Road  
Suite 225  
Melville, New York 11747  
Tel.: (631) 501-5700  
Fax: (631) 501-3526

ECM/gm



without references

Sheet

1 of

14

Form PTO-1449

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)  
2081CON2CIPCON  
(203-2400CON2CIPCON)

Application Number  
10/736,180

Applicant  
Buysse et al.

Filing Date  
December 15, 2003

Group Art Number  
3739

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	RE36795	7/25/00	RYDELL			
	371,664	10/18/1887	BRANNAN ET AL.			
	702,472	6/17/1902	PIGNOLET			
	728,883	5/26/1903	DOWNES			
	1,586,645	6/1/26	BIERMAN			
	2,002,594	5/28/35	WAPPLER ET AL.			
	2,011,169	8/13/35	F.C. WAPPLER			
	2,176,479	10/17/39	WILLIS			
	2,305,156	4/17/41	GRUBEL			
	2,632,661	8/14/48	CRISTOFV			
	2,668,538	2/9/54	BAKER			
	2,796,065	6/18/57	KAPP			
	3,459,187	3/9/67	PALLOTTA			
	3,643,663	2/22/72	SUTTER			
	3,651,811	3/28/72	HILDEBRANDT ET AL.			
	3,862,630	1/28/75	BALAMUTH			
	3,866,610	2/18/75	KLETSCHKA			
	3,911,766	10/14/75	FRIDOLPH ET AL.			
	3,920,021	11/18/75	HILTEBRANDT			
	3,921,641	11/25/75	HULKA			
	3,938,527	2/17/76	RIOUX ET AL.			
	3,952,749	4/27/76	FRIDOLPH ET AL.			
	4,005,714	2/1/77	HILTEBRANDT			
	4,074,718	2/21/78	MORRISON, JR.			
	4,088,134	5/9/78	MAZZARIELLO			

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

2081CON2CIPCON  
(203-2400CON2CIPCON)

Application Number

10/736,180

Applicant

Buysse et al.

Filing Date

December 15, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	4,165,746	8/28/79	BURGIN			
	4,300,564	11/17/81	FURIHATA			
	4,370,980	2/1/83	LOTTICK			
	4,492,231	1/8/85	AUTH			
	4,552,143	11/12/85	LOTTICK			
	4,574,804	3/11/86	KURWA			
	4,597,379	7/1/86	KIHN ET AL.			
	4,657,016	4/14/87	GARITO ET AL.			
	4,671,274	6/9/87	SOROCHENKO			
	4,685,459	8/11/87	XOCH ET AL.			
	4,763,669	8/16/88	JAEGER			
	4,827,929	5/9/89	HODGE			
	4,887,612	12/19/89	ESSER ET AL.			
	4,938,761	7/3/90	ENSSLIN			
	5,007,908	4/16/91	RYDELL			
	5,026,370	6/25/91	LOTTICK			
	5,099,840	3/31/92	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,116,332	5/26/92	LOTTICK			
	5,151,102	9/29/92	XAMIYAMA ET AL.			
	5,176,695	1/5/93	DULEBOHN			
	5,197,964	3/30/93	PARINS			
	5,215,101	6/1/93	JACOBS ET AL.			
	5,217,457	6/8/93	DELAHUERGA ET AL.			
	5,217,458	6/8/93	PARINS			
	5,244,462	9/14/93	DELAHUERGA ET AL.			
	5,250,047	10/5/93	RYDELL			

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

<b>Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>Docket Number (Optional)</b> 2081CON2CIPCON (203-2400CON2CIPCON)	<b>Application Number</b> 10/736,180
	<b>Applicant</b> Buysse et al.	
	<b>Filing Date</b> December 15, 2003	<b>Group Art Number</b> 3739

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	5,258,006	11/2/93	RYDELL ET AL.			
	5,261,918	11/16/93	PHILLIPS ET AL.			
	5,275,615	1/4/94	ROSE			
	5,277,201	1/11/94	STERN			
	5,282,799	2/1/94	RYDELL			
	5,290,286	3/1/94	PARINS			
	5,304,203	4/19/94	EL-MALLAWANY ET AL.			
	5,308,357	5/3/94	LICHTMAN			
	5,318,589	6/7/94	LICHTMAN			
	5,324,289	6/28/94	EGGERS			
	5,330,471	7/19/94	EGGERS			
	5,334,183	8/2/94	WUCHINICH			
	5,334,215	8/2/94	CHEN			
	5,336,221	8/9/94	ANDERSON			
	5,342,359	8/30/94	RYDELL			
	5,342,381	8/30/94	TIDEMAND			
	5,342,393	8/30/94	STACK			
	5,352,222	10/4/94	RYDELL			
	5,354,271	10/11/94	VODA			
	5,356,408	10/18/94	RYDELL			
	5,366,477	11/22/94	LEMARIE, III ET AL.			
	5,383,897	1/24/95	WHOLEY			
	5,389,098	2/14/95	TSURUTA ET AL.			
	5,389,104	2/14/95	HAHNEN ET AL.			
	5,391,166	2/21/95	EGGERS			

<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>
-----------------	------------------------

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

<b>Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>Docket Number (Optional)</b> 2081CON2CIPCON (203-2400CON2CIPCON)	<b>Application Number</b> 10/736,180
	<b>Applicant</b> Buysse et al.	
	<b>Filing Date</b> December 15, 2003	<b>Group Art Number</b> 3739

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	5,391,183	2/21/95	JANZEN ET AL.			
	5,403,312	4/4/95	YATES ET AL.			
	5,411,519	5/2/95	TOVEY ET AL.			
	5,411,520	5/2/95	NASH ET AL.			
	5,413,571	5/9/95	KATSAROS ET AL.			
	5,415,657	5/16/95	TAYMOR-LURIA			
	5,423,810	6/13/95	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,425,739	6/20/95	JESSEN			
	5,429,616	7/4/95	SCHAFER			
	5,431,674	7/11/95	BASILE ET AL.			
	5,437,292	7/4/95	SCHAFER			
	5,438,302	8/1/95	GOBLE			
	5,441,517	8/15/95	KENSEY ET AL.			
	5,443,463	8/22/95	STERN ET AL.			
	5,443,464	8/22/95	RUSSELL ET AL.			
	5,443,480	8/22/95	JACOBS ET AL.			
	5,445,638	8/29/95	RYDELL ET AL.			
	5,445,658	8/29/95	DURRFELD ET AL.			
	5,451,224	9/19/95	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,456,684	10/10/95	SCHMIDT ET AL.			
	5,458,598	10/17/95	FEINBERG ET AL.			
	5,460,629	10/24/95	SHLAIN ET AL.			
	5,462,546	10/31/95	RYDELL			
	5,472,443	12/5/95	CORDIS ET AL.			
	5,478,351	12/26/95	MEADE ET AL.			

<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>
-----------------	------------------------

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

<b>Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>Docket Number (Optional)</b> 2081CON2CIPCON (203-2400CON2CIPCON)	<b>Application Number</b> 10/736,180
	<b>Applicant</b> Buysse et al.	
	<b>Filing Date</b> December 15, 2003	<b>Group Art Number</b> 3739

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	5,484,436	1/6/96	EGGERS ET AL.			
	5,496,317	3/5/96	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,499,997	3/19/96	SHARPE ET AL.			
	5,509,922	4/23/96	ARANYI ET AL.			
	5,514,134	5/7/96	RYDELL ET AL.			
	5,527,313	6/18/96	SCOTT ET AL.			
	5,531,744	7/2/96	NARDELLA ET AL.			
	5,540,684	7/30/96	HASSLER, JR.			
	5,540,685	7/30/96	PARINS, ET AL.			
	5,540,715	7/30/96	KATSAROS ET AL.			
	5,558,672	9/24/96	EDWARDS ET AL.			
	5,569,241	10/29/96	EDWARDDS			
	5,571,100	11/5/96	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,569,243	10/29/96	KORTENBACH ET AL.			
	5,573,535	11/12/96	VIKLUND			
	5,585,896	12/17/96	YAMAZAKI ET AL.			
	5,590,570	1/7/97	LEMAIRE, III ET AL.			
	5,603,711	2/18/97	PARINS, ET AL.			
	5,603,723	2/18/97	ARANYI ET AL.			
	5,626,578	5/6/97	TIHON			
	5,630,833	5/20/97	KATSAROS ET AL.			
	5,637,110	6/10/97	PENNYBACKER ET AL.			
	5,643,294	7/1/97	TOVEY ET AL.			
	5,647,869	7/15/97	GOBLE ET AL.			
	5,647,871	7/15/97	LEVINE ET AL.			
	5,649,959	7/22/97	HANNAM ET AL.			

<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>
-----------------	------------------------

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

2081CON2CIPCON  
(203-2400CON2CIPCON)

Application Number

10/736,180

Applicant

Buysse et al.

Filing Date

December 15, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	5,658,281	8/19/97	HEARD			
	5,667,526	9/16/97	LEVIN			
	5,674,220	10/7/97	FOX ET AL.			
	5,693,051	12/2/97	SCHULZE ET AL.			
	5,695,522	12/9/97	LEMAIRE, III ET AL.			
	5,700,261	12/23/97	BRINKERHOFF			
	5,702,390	12/30/97	AUSTIN ET AL.			
	5,707,369	1/13/98	VAITEKUNAS ET AL.			
	5,709,680	1/20/98	YATES ET AL.			
	5,727,428	3/17/98	LEMAIRE, III ET AL.			
	5,743,906	4/28/98	PARINS, ET AL.			
	5,755,717	5/26/98	YATES ET AL.			
	5,766,166	6/16/98	HOOVEN			
	5,766,170	6/16/98	EGGERS			
	5,769,849	6/23/98	EGGERS			
	5,776,128	7/7/98	EGGERS			
	5,776,130	7/7/98	BUYSSE ET AL.			
	5,779,701	07/14/98	MCBRAYER ET AL.			
	5,792,137	8/11/98	CARR ET AL.			
	5,792,177	8/11/98	KASEDA			
	5,797,958	08/25/98	YOON			
	5,800,449	9/1/98	WALES			
	5,810,808	9/22/98	EGGERS			
	5,810,811	09/22/98	YATES ET AL.			
	5,814,043	9/29/98	SHAPETON			
	5,827,271	10/27/98	BUYSSE ET AL.			
	5,827,279	10/27/98	HUGHETT ET AL.			
	5,827,281	10/27/98	LEVIN			

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

<b>Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>Docket Number (Optional)</b> 2081CON2CIPCON (203-2400CON2CIPCON)	<b>Application Number</b> 10/736,180
	<b>Applicant</b> Buysse et al.	
	<b>Filing Date</b> December 15, 2003	<b>Group Art Number</b> 3739

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	5,833,690	11/10/98	YATES ET AL.			
	5,843,080	12/1/98	FLEENOR ET AL.			
	5,849,022	12/15/98	SAKASHITA ET AL.			
	5,853,412	12/29/98	MAYENBERGER			
	5,891,141	4/6/99	RYDELL			
	5,891,142	4/6/99	EGGERS ET AL.			
	5,893,863	04/13/99	YOON			
	5,893,875	4/13/99	O'CONNOR ET AL.			
	5,902,301	5/11/99	OLIG			
	5,908,420	7/1/99	PARINS, ET AL.			
	5,913,874	6/22/99	BERNS ET AL.			
	5,921,984	7/13/99	SUTCU ET AL.			
	5,935,126	8/10/99	RIZA			
	5,951,549	9/14/99	RICHARDSON ET AL.			
	5,954,720	9/21/99	WILSON ET AL.			
	5,976,132	11/2/99	MORRIS			
	5,989,277	11/23/99	LEMAIRE, III ET AL.			
	6,004,335	12/21/99	VAITEKUNAS ET AL.			
	6,024,744	2/15/00	KESE ET AL.			
	6,033,399	3/7/00	GINES			
	6,039,733	3/21/00	BUYSSE ET AL.			
	6,050,996	4/18/00	SCHMALTZ ET AL.			
	6,053,914	4/25/00	EGGERS ET AL.			
	6,053,933	4/25/00	BALAZS ET AL.			
	6,083,223	7/4/00	BAKER			
	6,086,586	7/11/00	HOOVEN			

<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>
-----------------	------------------------

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

2081CON2CIPCON  
(203-2400CON2CIPCON)Application Number  
10/736,180

Applicant

Buysse et al.

Filing Date

December 15, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	6,090,107	7/18/00	BORGMEIER ET AL.			
	6,090,109	7/18/00	LANDS ET AL.			
	6,096,031	8/1/00	MITCHELL ET AL.			
	6,099,550	8/8/00	YOON			
	6,102,909	8/15/00	CHEN ET AL.			
	6,110,171	8/29/00	RYDELL			
	6,113,596	9/5/00	HOOVEN ET AL.			
	6,113,598	9/5/00	BAKER			
	6,126,658	10/3/00	BAKER			
	6,152,923	11/28/00	RYAN			
	6,174,309	1/16/01	WRUBLEWSKI ET AL.			
	6,179,834	1/30/01	BUYSSE ET AL.			
	6,179,837	1/30/01	HOOVEN			
	6,183,467	2/6/01	SHAPETON ET AL.			
	6,187,003	2/13/01	BUYSSE ET AL.			
	6,190,386	2/20/01	RYDELL			
	6,193,718	2/27/01	KORTENBACH ET AL.			
	6,206,876	3/27/01	LEVINE ET AL.			
	6,206,877	3/27/01	KESE ET AL.			
	6,224,593	5/1/01	RYAN ET AL.			
	6,228,080	5/8/01	GINES			
	6,228,083	5/8/01	LANDS ET AL.			
	6,267,761	7/31/01	RYAN			
	6,273,887	8/14/01	YAMAUCHI ET AL.			
	6,277,117	8/21/01	TETZLAFF ET AL.			
	6,334,860	1/1/02	DORN			

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



Form PTO-1449

# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

2081CON2CIPCON  
(203-2400CON2CIPCON)

Application Number

10/736,180

Applicant

Buysse et al.

Filing Date

December 15, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
		EP1082944A1	3/14/01	EP				
		EP1080694A1	3/7/01	EP				
		EP1055400A1	11/29/00	EP				
		EP1055399A1	11/29/00	EP				
		EP1053720A1	11/22/00	EP				
		EP1053719A1	11/22/00	EP				
		EP1050278A1	11/8/00	EP				
		EP1034746A3	10/18/00	EP				
		EP1025807A3	10/4/00	EP				
		EP1034748A1	9/13/00	EP				
		EP1034747A1	9/13/00	EP				
		EP0923907A1	6/23/99	EP				
		EP0887046A3	1/13/99	EP				
		EP0754437A3	3/19/97	EP				
		EP0717966A1	6/26/96	EP				
		EP0694290A3	3/13/96	EP				
		EP0650701A1	5/3/95	EP				
		EP0623316A1	11/9/94	EP				
		EP0364216A1	4/18/90	EP				
		EPO518230A1	12/16/92	EP				
		EP0 541 930 B1	5/19/93	EP				
		EP0572131	12/1/93	EP				
		EPO584787A1	3/2/94	EP				
		EPO853922A1	7/22/98	EP				

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

<b>Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)				Docket Number (Optional) 2081CON2CIPCON (203-2400CON2CIPCON)		Application Number 10/736,180		
				Applicant Buysse et al.				
				Filing Date December 15, 2003		Group Art Number 3739		
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
		JP5-40112	not avail.	Japan				
		JP2001128990A2	5/15/01	Japan				
		JP2001029356A2	2/6/01	Japan				
		JP2001008944A2	1/16/01	Japan				
		JP2000350732A2	12/19/00	Japan				
		JP2000342599A2	12/12/00	Japan				
		JP11244298A2	9/14/99	Japan				
		JP09010223A2	1/14/97	Japan				
		JP08252263A2	10/1/96	Japan				
		JP08056955A2	3/5/96	Japan				
		JP07265328A2	10/17/95	Japan				
		JP06343644A2	12/20/94	Japan				
		SU401367		Russia				
		WO 92/06642	4/30/92	PCT				
		WO 95/02369	1/26/95	PCT				
		WO 97/00646	1/9/97	PCT				
		WO 97/00647	1/9/97	PCT				
		WO 97/24073	7/10/97	PCT				
		WO 97/24993	7/17/97	PCT				
		WO 98/27880	7/2/98	PCT				
		WO 99/03407	1/28/99	PCT				
		WO 99/03408	1/28/99	PCT				
		WO 99/03409	1/28/99	PCT				
		WO 99/40857	8/19/99	PCT				
		WO 99/51158	10/14/99	PCT				
		WO 00/24330	5/4/00	PCT				
		WO 00/41638	7/20/00	PCT				
		WO 00/53112	9/14/00	PCT				
		WO 01/54604	8/2/01	PCT				
		WO 02/080796 A1	10/17/02	PCT				
		DE 19608716	4/17/97	DE				
		2,214,430A	6/9/89	GB				
		2,104,423	2/25/94	CANADA				
Examiner					Date Considered			
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or nor citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.								

Form PTO-1449		Docket Number (Optional) 2081CON2CIPCON (203-2400CON2CIPCON)		Application Number 10/736,180	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Buyse et al.			
		Filing Date December 15, 2003		Group Art Number 3739	
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b>					
		Sigel et al. "The Mechanism of Blood Vessel Closure by High Frequency Electrocoagulation"			
		SURGERY GYNECOLOGY & OBSTETRICS, OCT 1965 pp. 823-831			
		Bergdahl et al. "Studies on Coagulation and the Development of an Automatic Computerized Bipolar Coagulator"			
		J.NEurosurg, VOL.75, JULY 1991, pp 148-151			
		Kennedy et al. "High-burst-strength, feedback-controlled bipolar vessel sealing"			
		SURGICAL ENDOSCOPY (1998) 12: 876-878			
		Peterson et al. "Comparison of Healing Process Following Ligation with Sutures and Bipolar Vessel Sealing"			
		SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL (2001)			
		Linehan et al. "A Phase I Study of the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System in Hepatic Surgery"			
		Section of HPB Surger, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis MO, Presented at AHPBA, February 2001			
		Johnson et al. "Evaluation of the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System in Hemorrhoidectomy"			
		AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS (ACS) CLINICAL CONGRESS POSTER (2000)			
		Sayfan et al. "Sutureless Closed Hemorrhoidectomy: A New Technique"			
		ANNALS OF SURGERY Vol.234 No.1 July 2001 pp. 21-24			
		Heniford et al. "Initial Results with an Electrothermal Bipolar Vessel Sealer"			
		SURGICAL ENDOSCOPY (2000) 15:799-801			
		Heniford et al. "Initial Research and Clinical Results with an Electrothermal Bipolar Vessel Sealer"			
		10/99			
		McLellan et al. "Vessel Sealing for Hemostasis During Pelvic Surgery"			
		INT'L FEDERATION OF GYNECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS FIGO WORLD CONGRESS 2000, Washington, D.C.			
		Levy et al. "Use of a New Energy-based Vessel Ligation Device During Vaginal Hysterectomy"			
		INT'L FEDERATION OF GYNECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS (FIGO) WORLD CONGRESS			
		Crawford et al. "Use of the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System in Urologic Cancer Surger"			
		GRAND ROUNDS IN UROLOGY 1999 Vol. 1 Issue 4 pp.10-17			
		Rothenberg et al. "Use of the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System in Minimally Invasive Surgery in Children"			
		INT'L PEDIATRIC ENDOSURGERY GROUP (IPEG) 2000			
		Palazzo et al. "Randomized clinical trial of Ligasure versus open haemorrhoidectomy"			
		BRITISH JOURNAL OF SURGERY 2002, 89, 154-157			
		"Innovations in Electrosurgery"			
		Sales/Product Literature			
		LigaSure Vessel Sealing System, the Seal of Confidence in General, Gynecologic, Urologic, and Laparoscopic Surgery			
		Sales/Product Literature			
		Carbonell et al., "Comparison of the Gyrus PlasmaKinetic Sealer and the Valleylab LigaSure Device in the Hemostasis of Small, Medium, and Large-Sized Arteries"			
		Carolinas Laparoscopic and Advanced Surgery Program, Carolinas Medical Center, Charlotte, NC			
		"Reducing Needlestick Injuries in the Operating Room"			
		Sales/Product Literature			
Examiner			Date Considered		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.					

Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

2081CON2CIPCON  
(203-2400CON2CIPCON)

Application Number

10/736,180

Applicant

Buysse et al.

Filing Date

December 15, 2003

Group Art Number

3739

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

Chung et al., "Clinical Experience of Sutureless Closed Hemorrhoidectomy with LigaSure"  
Diseases of the Colon & Rectum Vol. 46, No. 1 January 2003

Strasberg et al., "Use of a Bipolar Vessel-Sealing Device for Parenchymal Transection During Liver Surgery"  
Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery, Vol. 6, No. 4, July/August 2002 pp.569-574

Paul G. Horgan, "A Novel Technique for Parenchymal Division During Hepatectomy"  
The American Journal of Surgery, Vol. 181, No. 3, April 2001 pp. 236-237

W. Scott Helton, "LigaSure Vessel Sealing System: Revolutionary Hemostasis Product for General Surgery"  
Sales/Product Literature

Michael Choti, "Abdominoperineal Resection with the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System and LigaSure  
Atlas 20 cm Open Instrument"  
Innovations That Work, June 2003

Craig Johnson, "Use of the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System in Bloodless Hemorrhoidectomy"  
Innovations That Work, March 2000

Muller et al., "Extended Left Hemicolectomy Using the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System"  
Innovations That Work, September 1999

Herman et al., "Laparoscopic Intestinal Resection With the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System: A Case Report"  
Innovations That Work, February 2002

Carus et al., "Initial Experience With The LigaSure Vessel Sealing System in Abdominal Surgery"  
Innovations That Work, June 2002

Levy et al. "Randomized Trial of Suture Versus Electrosurgical Bipolar Vessel Sealing in Vaginal Hysterectomy"  
Obstetrics & Gynecology, Vol. 102, No. 1, July 2003

Levy et al., "Update on Hysterectomy - New Technologies and Techniques"  
OBG Management, February 2003

Barbara Levy, "Use of a New Vessel Ligation Device During Vaginal Hysterectomy"  
FIGO 2000, Washington, D.C.

McLellan et al. "Vessel Sealing For Hemostasis During Gynecologic Surgery"  
Sales/Product Literature

Sengupta et al., "Use of a Computer-Controlled Bipolar Diathermy System in Radical Prostatectomies and Other Open Urological Surgery"  
ANZ Journal of Surgery (2001) 71.9 pp. 538-540

Olsson et al. "Radical Cystectomy in Females"  
Current Surgical Techniques in Urology, Vol. 14, Issue 3

E. David Crawford "Use of a Novel Vessel Sealing Technology in Management of the Dorsal Venous Complex"  
Sales/Product Literature

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

<b>Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>Docket Number (Optional)</b> 2081CON2CIPCON (203-2400CON2CIPCON)	<b>Application Number</b> 10/736,180
	<b>Applicant</b> Buysse et al.	
	<b>Filing Date</b> December 15, 2003	<b>Group Art Number</b> 3739

## OTHER DOCUMENTS

	Jarrett et al., "Use of the LigaSure Vessel Sealing System for Peri-Hilar Vessels in Laparoscopic Nephrectomy"
	Sales/Product Literature
	E. David Crawford "Evaluation of a New Vessel Sealing Device in Urologic Cancer Surgery"
	Sales/Product Literature
	Joseph Ortenberg "LigaSure System Used in Laparoscopic 1st and 2nd Stage Orchiopexy"
	Innovations That Work, November 2002
	Koyle et al., "Laparoscopic Palomo Varicocele Ligation in Children and Adolescents"
	Pediatric Endosurgery & Innovative Techniques, Vol. 6, No. 1, 2002
	Dulemba et al. "Use of a Bipolar Electrothermal Vessel Sealer in Laparoscopically Assisted Vaginal Hysterectomy"
	Sales/Product Literature
	Johnson et al. "Evaluation of a Bipolar electrothermal Vessel Sealing Device in Hemorrhoidectomy"
	Sales/Product Literature
	Int'l Search Report PCT/US01/11218
	Int'l Search Report PCT/US99/24869
	Int'l Search Report PCT/US98/18640
	Int'l Search Report PCT/US98/23950

<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or nor citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.	